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***In-vivo* valuation of pharmacologically beneficial tendency in beta-carotene**

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Abstract : β -carotene a member of carotenes, is an organic red-orange pigment present in plants. β -carotene is a precursor of vitamin A. In the body, β -carotene is converted to vitamin A (retinol). β -carotene is also known to have antioxidant activity¹. Current study is aimed at exploring the pharmacological activities of β -carotene. This was achieved by examining its analgesic, antipyretic and ulcerogenic properties with different experimental models in mice. A non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID), indomethacin (3 mg/kg b.wt.;i.p.) was used as standard for the purpose of comparison. It was found that β -carotene possesses significant ($P < 0.05$) analgesic and antipyretic effect compared to indomethacin. Animals administered orally with β -carotene (10 mg/kg b.w.) after 16 hours of fasting showed absence of gastric damage, whereas indomethacin administered rat showed gastric damage.

Keywords: Antioxidant, Antipyretic, Analgesic, β -carotene, supplement.

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